

The Country Club
of Colorado

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FAX



The Country Club of Colorado
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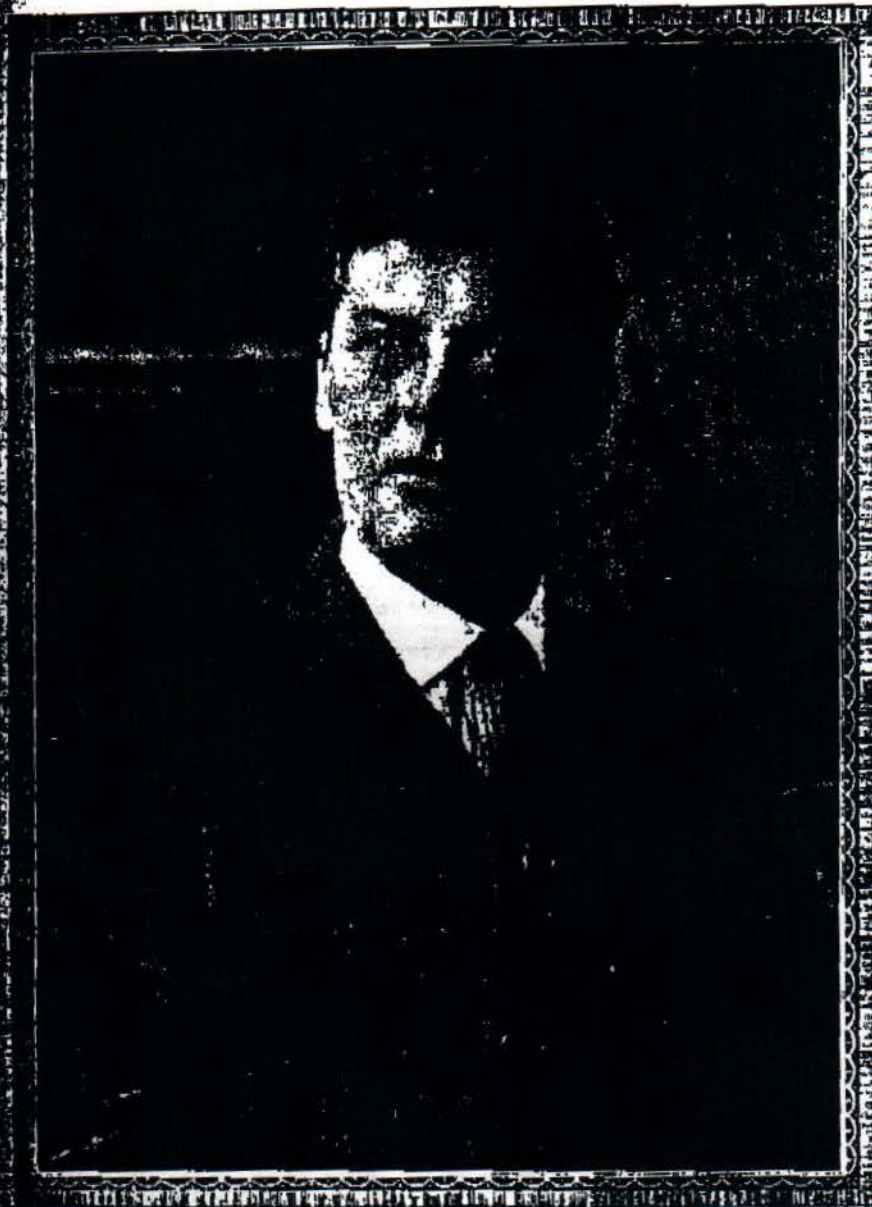
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ATTN COLLEGE HISTORIAN

*I am a 1957 graduate of ECCC and am
sending this information regarding my
Grandfather who had a lot to do with the
creation of East Central C.C.*

*He was a State Senator and member of Miss.
House of Rep. and wrote laws and legislation
helping to get the Miss. junior college program
started. Thought you may want this info.
Bill Majure.*



L. Q. C. Williams

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WILLIAMS, LAMAR Q.C., Public Official

-Few men in the history of Union City and Newton County, Mississippi, have exerted a greater and more beneficial influence on the life of this section of the State than Lamar Q.C. Williams, former educator, State Senator, merchant and municipal official. Throughout his life he contributed generously to the welfare and progress of his surroundings and through his efforts came to enjoy richly merited success and the deep esteem and honor of his fellow-citizens. Apart from business and politics, he was active in all forms of social life, and was one of the leading supporters of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Union, Mississippi.

Mr. Williams was born at Beach Springs, Mississippi, April 18, 1881, son of Oscar Lane and Mary (Stuart) Williams, both natives of this Commonwealth. His father, who was a merchant and pioneer, also was prominent in civic affairs and had served as a member of the State Legislature.

After a general education in the public schools of his native State, Lamar Q. C. Williams matriculated at Millsaps College, in Jackson, Mississippi, which he attended until 1902. During his summer vacations he taught school in Newton and Greene counties. He continued in this profession for a period after college, and later established a mercantile firm in the community of Union with his brother, William Percy, his father, Oscar L. Williams and Wylie Brooks. They operated under the title of the Williams and Brooks Mercantile Company until 1929, at which time Mr. Williams entered the insurance business as a representative of the Standard Life Insurance Company, of Jackson, Mississippi, and continued successfully in this field until his passing. According to officials of this organization, death deprived him by two weeks of promotion to district manager. As a business man his abilities and methods were respected by his colleagues and by those with whom he had business dealings.

Throughout his life he was deeply interested in politics. A staunch Democrat, he became a leader of that organization in his district, and through his contributions to its affairs won State-wide recognition. It is thus we find him being appointed a member of the Text Book Commission by Governor James K. Vardeman, a body he served for four years. He was elected a State Senator for the 1916-20 term, and during the first year became interested in the high school that later became the East Central Junior College, at Decatur, Mississippi. Through his efforts passage was obtained of a law authorizing the building of a dormitory at that school. In 1918 he was elected a member of the board of trustees of that institution and served in that capacity until his death. Elected to the House of Representatives of the State of Mississippi for the 1920-24 term, he benefitted public education throughout the State by obtaining passage of a

law authorizing the establishment of junior college work in connection with agricultural high schools in Mississippi. Again, as a member of the House of Representatives for the 1928-32 term, he rewrote and obtained passage of a new junior college law in Mississippi. This bill gave broader scope to these institutions, authorizing groups of counties to join in obtaining the location of such semi-State supported schools, and led to the establishment of eleven such institutions in Mississippi. In this same capacity as a legislator he worked for and obtained substantial appropriations for junior colleges, and was known as the leading spirit in the establishment and maintenance of schools in that State. As a legislator and a trustee of the local school, he did much to popularize the institution with the people, making speeches throughout this section in explanation of the law establishing such schools and the purposes for which they are maintained. During his legislative career he bent every effort on behalf of the educational system of the State and was influential in all such matters. W. C. Mabry, Sr., was elected Senator for the 1932-36 term from the Thirteenth District, including Newton County, but resigned to become postmaster, and Mr. Williams easily won in the election as his successor. In his municipal activities Mr. Williams was also considered a leader, being active in all civic movements and at one time having served as a member of the city council.

Mr. Williams was a home-loving man, who devoted as much of his leisure as possible to his family. He was fond of sports and found particular pleasure in fishing. In religion, Mr. Williams adhered to the Methodist Episcopal faith and worshiped at the church of that denomination in Union, where he also served as a steward, and was superintendent of the Sunday school for twenty-five years.

On December 28, 1905, at Beach Springs, Mississippi, Mr. Williams married Josie Mae McDonald, a native of that community, and daughter of Joseph Daniel and Mary Ella (Hays) McDonald, both members of pioneer families in this State. Her father was a planter and cotton buyer. Mr. and Mrs. Williams were the parents of two children: 1. Lamar Carruth, who married Nancy Buntyn, and they have one daughter, Patricia Ann and reside in Union. 2. Mary Ella, who married Edward C. Majure, and they have one son, James Edward; they reside at Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Mr. Williams died at his home in Union, August 6, 1934, at the age of fifty-three years. His sudden passing came as a distinct shock to this community and caused profound sorrow throughout this section of the State, where for years he had been ranked among the outstanding leaders. He was a personality whose useful accomplishments aided in the betterment of his surroundings and remain as tributes to his memory. One of the finest memorials paid to him as a man and citizen is embodied in an editorial by his friend, W. C. Mabry, which says in part:

Sometimes it is necessary to know a person intimately to understand him and to be able to estimate his real worth. It was the privilege of this writer to be associated with Lamar Williams in the teaching business the first year he came to Newton County, twenty-eight years ago, and we have been intimately associated with him ever since, serving fifteen years as one board with him.

We never had a better friend than he. The writer knew him as a friend who stood by him as truly in his failures as in his successes, one who could always be relied upon to advise and console